



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20380

MCO 1542.2D  
MRRO-2F-klp  
19 Jul 1982

MARINE CORPS ORDER 1542.2D W/CH 1

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Flight Indoctrination Program (FIP)

Ref: (a) MCO P3040.4A (NOTAL)

Encl: (1) U.S. Marine Corps Flight Indoctrination Program  
Supplemental Agreement  
(2) Responsibilities of Headquarters Marine Corps  
(3) Responsibilities of Directors, Marine Corps  
Districts  
(4) Responsibilities of Officer Selection Officers  
(5) Responsibilities of Flight Indoctrination Program  
Students  
(6) Responsibilities of Civilian Flight Schools  
(7) FIP Final Report Format

Reports Required: I. Flight Indoctrination Final Report  
(Report Symbol MC-1542-02), par. 7  
II. Accident/Incident Report  
(Report Symbol MC-1542-03), par. 7

1. Purpose. To provide instructions for the administration  
of the Marine Corps Flight Indoctrination Program (FIP).

2. Cancellation. MCO 1542.2C.

3. Background

a. The Flight Indoctrination Program provides payment for  
civilian flight instruction to qualified members of the Platoon  
Leaders Class (Aviation) Program (PLC (A)) in return for  
certain obligated active duty commitments. Civilian flight  
instruction affords the Marine Corps and the PLC(A) member an  
opportunity to determine the latter's aptitude and motivation  
before assignment to flight training.

b. The Marine Corps's benefits derived from the subsidy of  
civilian instruction to qualified members of the PLC(A)  
Program include:

(1) Long-term savings from reduced attrition at Navy  
flight training. Statistics confirm that officers with  
previous flight experience have a higher probability of  
successfully completing military flight training.

(2) This program provides the Marine Corps with an  
effective tool to manage officer accession goals. A PLC member  
who continues beyond the initial solo must execute a  
supplemental agreement which obligates him to accept his  
commission, if tendered, and serve on active duty.

(3) The value of this program as a recruiting  
incentive is considered excellent.

4. General Information

a. Pre-solo flight instruction is provided without  
obligation on the part of the student. Instruction beyond the  
first solo flight is provided in return for an agreement that  
the student will accept appointment to commissioned grade, if  
tendered. The member further agrees to repay expenses incurred  
under the Program of instruction or perform 2 years active duty  
in an enlisted status should he become ineligible for, or  
decline appointment to commissioned grade.

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b. The Flight Indoctrination Program involves only the financing of PLC participation in approved civilian flight instruction; it does not constitute an activity of the US Marine Corps or any part of the PLC training requirement. The rights and liabilities created under the FIP are solely those which exist between the PLC member in his individual capacity as a student and the flight school providing instruction. Accordingly, in case of FIP injury or death, such members are not entitled to service benefits or to Servicemen's Group Life Insurance. The Government is not liable in any manner to the member, his family or, other persons injured/killed. Casualty assistance is not provided and casualty procedures remain in accordance with reference (a).

c. Participation in the Flight Indoctrination Program is voluntary. Nonparticipation or failure to complete the program for reasons beyond the participant's control will not normally preclude future assignment of a qualified PLC to aviation training.

d. Failure to perform satisfactorily or to achieve satisfactory flight grades in the program may be grounds for board of review action at HQMC with possible revocations of the participants aviation service agreement.

## 5. Program Description

a. Eligibility. To be eligible for participation in the FIP, a student must:

(1) Be enrolled in the Platoon Leaders Class (Aviation) Program.

(2) Have completed all required precommissioning training.

(3) Must be a full-time student in the final year of college carrying at least 12 semester hours, or nine quarter hours, with at least a 2.0 GPA, and no less than a 2.0 GPA during the previous semester. Midyear graduates will be considered for the program only during their final semester.

(4) Not attempt an academic schedule which would preclude a reasonable probability of completing the FIP syllabus in one semester; however, the member must remain a full-time student in good standing at an accredited college or university.

(5) Not have had any more than 24 hours of flight instructions in any aircraft.

(6) Receive permission to participate in the FIP from his Dean and academic advisor.

(7) Must receive written permission from parent(s) if statutory minors.

## b. Concept of Instruction

(1) Annually, the application period will be 1 September to 31 January. All contracts/purchase orders must be completed prior to commencement of flight instruction. Flight instruction is authorized between 1 October and 30 September of each fiscal year. All flight instruction must terminate by the participant's graduation/commissioning date or by 30 September, whichever occurs first.

(2) Flight and ground instruction will be provided by approved and contracted Federal Aviation Administration civilian flight schools located as near as possible to the students' school residence.

(3) Basic contracts/purchase orders include up to a total of 25 hours of flight instruction. Whatever amount of certified flight time previously completed by the candidate will be subtracted from the 25 hour maximum, and the difference will be the approved number of contract hours. At least 5 hours of the syllabus should be solo flight instruction, unless the candidate has soloed prior to acceptance into FIP.

(4) Ground instruction should not be required. The objective of the FIP is not related to Federal Aviation Regulations minimum requirements for a private pilot's certificate. When it is deemed necessary, ground instruction will be limited to that which allows the student safe completion of a 25-hour syllabus.

(5) All syllabi for flight and ground instruction will be in accordance with current Federal Aviation Regulations. The flight syllabus will include a "Basic Flying Stage" consisting of not more than 12 hours dual instruction plus the initial solo flight. No FIP student will proceed beyond the "Basic Flying Stage" without executing the obligatory agreement in enclosure (1). Any individual who has had previous certified flight time and has soloed, will be required to execute a supplemental agreement prior to commencing the FIP.

(6) District Directors are authorized to extend the "Basic Flying Stage" to 15 hours total flight time. However, the judgement must be made that the requirement for additional flight time is not a result of poor aptitude or motivation.

(7) All expenses for instruction, required texts and supplies will be paid by the Marine Corps. Transportation between the student's school residence and flight school will be reimbursed at the rate in accordance with joint travel regulations-4203 paragraph 4. A maximum of 35 round trips is authorized.

c. Disenrollment. Disenrollment from the FIP may be initiated by the student, the civilian flight school, the Officer Selection Officer, the District Director, or the Commandant of the Marine Corps for any of the following reasons:

(1) Expressed or demonstrated lack of motivation.

(2) Demonstrated lack of aeronautical adaptability or any intentional safety violations.

(3) Failure of the student to comply with his expected date of graduation.

(4) Failure to maintain satisfactory status in the PLC(A) Program.

6. Responsibilities. The specific responsibilities of Headquarters Marine Corps, District Directors, officer Selection Officer, FIP participant, and civilian flight school are contained in enclosures (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6).

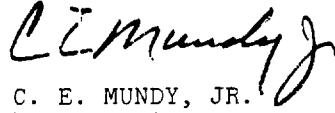
## 7. Reporting Instructions

a. District Directors will maintain data necessary for the compilation of the FIP Final Report, enclosure (7). Enclosure (7) will be sent to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code MRRO-2) not later than 31 October each fiscal year. Report symbol (RCS) MC-1542-02 has been assigned to this report.

b. In the event of any accident/incident notify the Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code MRRO-2), by telephone within 24 hours, followed in 48 hours with the information required by paragraph 10 of enclosure (4). RCS MC-1542-03 has been assigned to this report.

8. Fiscal Instruction. Marine Corps districts accounting and appropriation data will be utilized.

9. Reserve Applicability. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Reserve.



C. E. MUNDY, JR.  
By direction

\*DISTRIBUTION: HW8 plus 7000124 (15)

Copy to: E26 (1)/8145001



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20380

MCO 1542.2D Ch 1  
MRRO-2F-klp  
4 Nov 1982

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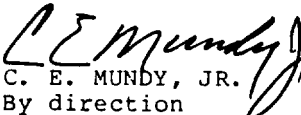
From: Commandant of the Marine Corps  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Flight Indoctrination Program (FIP)

1. Purpose. To direct a pen change to the basic Order.
2. Action. Change the "DISTRIBUTION" section of the basic Order to read the same as the "DISTRIBUTION" section of this Change.
3. Information

a. Activities listed in Distribution Code HW8 that were not on the distribution for the basic Order should request copies of the basic Order from the stock point in accordance with their Individual Activity Table of Allowances for Publications (TAP).

b. Distribution Code E26 will be deleted from the "Copy to:" section of future updates of this Order. Activities listed in Distribution Code E26 that are not included in Distribution Code HW8 will no longer receive updates of this Order, and should return usable copies to the stock point.

  
C. E. MUNDY, JR.  
By direction

DISTRIBUTION: HW8 plus 7000124 (15)

Copy to: E26 (1)/8145001

U.S. MARINE CORPS FLIGHT INDOCTRINATION PROGRAM

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\*TO BE COMPLETED UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF "BASIC FLYING STATE" . . . . PRIOR TO CONTINUING INSTRUCTION OR BY THOSE INDIVIDUAL PLC's WHO HAVE PREVIOUS CERTIFIED FLIGHT TIME AND HAVE SOLED.

\_\_\_\_\_

IN CONNECTION WITH MY PARTICIPATION IN THE MARINE CORPS FLIGHT INDOCTRINATION PROGRAM, I UNDERSTAND THAT HAVING COMPLETED MY FIRST SOLO FLIGHT IN THE FLIGHT INDOCTRINATION PROGRAM, I HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE "BASIC FLYING STAGE".

I HEREBY REQUEST TO CONTINUE IN THE FLIGHT INDOCTRINATION PROGRAM TOWARD COMPLETION.

IN CONNECTION WITH MY FURTHER PARTICIPATION IN THE MARINE CORPS FLIGHT INDOCTRINATION PROGRAM, I UNDERSTAND THAT CONTINUING IN THE PROGRAM PAST THE "BASIC FLYING STAGE" ENTAILS CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS WHETHER I COMPLETE THE FIP OR FAIL TO COMPLETE THE FIP FOR ANY REASON. I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT:

a. UPON SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF ALL REQUIREMENTS, I WILL ACCEPT APPOINTMENT TO COMMISSIONED GRADE IN THE MARINE CORPS RESERVE, IF A COMMISSION IS TENDERED TO ME. UPON SUCH APPOINTMENT TO COMMISSIONED GRADE, I WILL BECOME INELIGIBLE FOR FURTHER PARTICIPATION IN THE FIP AND WILL BE DISENROLLED IMMEDIATELY.

b. IF I REFUSE TO ACCEPT, OR BECOME INELIGIBLE FOR, APPOINTMENT TO COMMISSIONED GRADE IN THE MARINE CORPS RESERVE, I WILL BE ORDERED TO REPAY MONIES EXPENDED FOR FLIGHT TRAINING EXPENSES TO DATE OR BE ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, UNLESS NOT PHYSICALLY QUALIFIED FOR ENLISTED SERVICE; AND I DO HEREBY CONSENT TO SERVE ON ACTIVE DUTY, IN AN ENLISTED STATUS, FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS. SUCH ACTIVE DUTY WILL COMMENCE NOT LATER THAN MY PROJECTED DATE OF COMPLETION OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR MY BACCALAUREATE DEGREE. THIS PROJECTED DATE IS \_\_\_\_\_. IF DISENROLLED FROM THE PLATOON LEADERS CLASS (PLC) PROGRAM PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF COLLEGE I WILL BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE BY EDUCATION UNTIL THAT DATE.

c. UPON APPOINTMENT TO COMMISSIONED GRADE IN THE MARINE CORPS RESERVE AND UPON BEING ORDERED TO EXTENDED ACTIVE DUTY, MY INITIAL ASSIGNMENT WILL BE TO THE BASIC SCHOOL, AT QUANTICO, VIRGINIA.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF WITNESSING OFFICER/DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME, GRADE, SSAN OF WITNESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PLC MEMBER/DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
TYPED NAME OF PLC MEMBER, SSAN

ENCLOSURE (1)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS

1. Allocate FIP monies to the respective Marine Corps Districts according to the number of fully trained PLC N.A. in the pool on 31 August.
2. Monitor the number participants each respective district has approved for the program.
3. Commence board action on any individual participant who does not adhere to the standards set forth in the program and notify the individual in writing of the results and recommendation of said board.

ENCLOSURE (2)

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS, MARINE CORPS DISTRICTS

1. Receive, review and approve applications for the Flight Indoctrination Program up to 31 January. A copy of Districts approval letter will be forwarded to the CMC (Code MRRO-2F). A consolidated listing of all PLC's approved at the District level for the Flight Indoctrination Program will be forwarded by 15 February to the CMC (Code MRRO-2F). Every effort should be made to enroll all qualified PLC(A)'s in FIP.
2. Establish liaison between Headquarters Marine Corps, participating flight schools, district-area FAA representatives, and participating students.
3. Procure civilian flight instruction for the CMC selected/approved participants in accordance with procurement procedures as outlined in the current edition of MCO P4200.15. Services will be effected by utilizing the purchase order method, unless clear advantages to the government are obtained by consolidating students under one contract. The Blanket Purchase Order method will not be utilized to circumvent monetary limitations authorized the district and will not normally be utilized for individual student instruction. Monthly billing and subsequent partial payment to the participating flight school are possible under either method of purchasing.
4. Provide FIP participants with general information on the program, detailed instructions regarding commencement of instruction, and student responsibilities.
5. Ensure contract/purchase order specifications are thoroughly understood and fulfilled by each participating flight school and that the fixed winged aircraft utilized, meets the requirements called for in the FIP syllabus.
6. Monitor student participation and evaluate individual students as follows:
  - a. Ensure the flight school submits daily grade sheets and check flight grade sheets after each period of instruction. Monitor grade sheets for accuracy and continuity on a continuous basis, noting flight time totals, instructional costs, travel costs, and student and instructor certification. Incomplete or incorrect grade sheets should be returned for correction. When necessary, payment can be deferred until the flight school complies with submission requirements.
  - b. Ensure the student has executed the Supplemental Agreement and that the original and two copies have been forwarded to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code MRRO-2F) prior to receiving instruction beyond the "Basic Flying Stage." An individual making initial application with previous certified flight time and who has previously soloed, must execute a Supplemental Agreement at the time of application.
  - c. Should a flight school recommend disenrollment or a participant receive an unsatisfactory check flight, insure no further instruction is permitted until an evaluation of the case can be completed. When disenrollment is recommended by the flight school or the district, forward the case to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code MRRO-2F) for final board of review action.
  - d. Students not certified as safe for solo after 12 hours of dual flight instruction will not be permitted to proceed without a consultation between the district FIP officer and the flight school. Under no circumstances will a student be given more than 15 hours flight time to complete his initial solo.
  - e. Ensure that flight instruction terminates after completion of a total of 25 hours combined.



f. Ensure that each student completes a student comment sheet upon termination of his training for any reason. Student comment sheets should be utilized by District Directors to evaluate civilian flight schools.

7. When geographically possible and TAD funds permit, inspect participating flight schools at least once during a contractual period.

8. Maintain the following records (separately or coincidentally):

a. Individual student files of participating PLC's, to contain:

- Flight school assigned
- Educational institution attending
- Travel distance/cost
- Starting date
- Expected completion date
- Projected graduation date
- Copies of Daily Grade Sheets, NAVMC 10857a
- Copy of Check Flight Grade Sheets, NAVMC 10857b
- Copy of student's Supplemental Agreement
- Copy of student's Comment Sheet
- Correspondence concerning student

b. Individual flight school files of participating flight schools in the district, to contain:

- Insurance certification
- Student(s) assigned
- Educational institution(s) served
- FAA ratings
- Invoices of current contractual period
- Copies of Daily and Check Flight Grade Sheets
- Union prices of contract/purchase order
- Results of prior district director's flight school evaluations
- Correspondence concerning flight school

c. Should flight school and student files not coincide, grade sheets will normally be retained in flight school files until verified against invoices and then transferred to individual student files.

d. A current listing of qualified FAA approved flight schools, obtainable from the General Aviation District offices (GADO's) of the FAA, and from personal liaison visits.

9. In the event of any accident/incident, notify the Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code MRRO-2), by telephone within 24 hours and by writing within 48 hours of receipt of notification by the flight school concerned providing the following:

- a. Type aircraft
- b. Name of PLC member
- c. Name of instructor (if onboard aircraft at time)
- d. Date and time of accident/incident
- e. Last point of departure
- f. Point of intended landing
- g. Position of aircraft with reference to some easily defined geographical location
- h. Nature of accident/incident (Description to include weather, extent of injuries, extend of damage, etc.)

Subsequent close coordination should be maintained with flight school and investigative officials to provide the Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code MRRO-2) with additional information concerning the accident/incident. Casualty procedures remain in accordance with the current edition of MCO P3040.4.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICER SELECTION OFFICERS

1. Inform current and prospective PLC's of pertinent aspects of the program and assist interested members in application preparation.
2. Ensure that an application is not forwarded unless the applicant satisfies all eligibility requirements.
3. Ensure that flight surgeons administering aviation physical examinations issue each member an FAA combination medical/student pilot certificate.

ENCLOSURE (4)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF FLIGHT INDOCTRINATION PROGRAM STUDENTS

1. Maintain satisfactory status in the PLC(A) Program during participation in the FIP.
2. Complete the FIP by his graduation/commissioning date or by 30 September whichever occurs first.
3. Execute a Supplemental Agreement when continuing beyond completion of the "Basic Flying Stage," (i.e. completion of his first solo flight). This agreement obligates the PLC members to accept a commission in the United States Marine Corps Reserve, if tendered. Should the member become ineligible for, or decline appointment, he will be ordered to repay monies expended for flight training expenses to date under the FIP, or he will be ordered to active duty as an enlisted Marine for a period of 2 years. This active duty will commence not later than the projected date of completion of requirements for a baccalaureate degree. Further, the PLC member agrees that his initial active duty assignment as a Marine officer will be to The Basic School.
4. Accomplish scheduling of flight instruction so as to avoid conflict with academic workloads and maintain a full-time student status.
5. Ensure that all program-related forms executed are correct and complete. Particular attention to the accuracy of daily and check flight grade sheets is essential.
6. Maintain, in accordance with FAA requirements, an FAA combination medical/student pilot certificate. This certificate is valid for 24 months from the date issued and can be obtained at no cost from the administering flight surgeon when a PLC member receives an aviation physical examination.
7. Communicate any significant instructional difficulties encountered to the appropriate District Director via the Officer Selection Officer.
8. Complete and forward a Student Comment Sheet to the appropriate District Director via the Officer Selection Officer upon termination of instruction.

ENCLOSURE (5)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CIVILIAN FLIGHT SCHOOLS

1. Provide instruction and services specified in the terms of the contract/purchase order, ensuring that the fixed winged aircraft utilized for the training is suitable enough to meet FIP syllabus requirements.
2. Maintain technical, operational, and administrative records specified in the terms of the contract/purchase order.
3. Submit invoices for payment to the appropriate District Director at the end of the calendar month, or as the District Director may otherwise approve.
4. Ensure that all daily and check flight grade sheets are completed promptly, accurately, and forwarded to the appropriate District Director.
5. Ensure that no student receives instruction beyond the "Basic Flying Stage" unless he has completed the Supplemental Agreement for active duty. Upon completion of the "Basic Flying Stage," instruction must be terminated until the district director has acknowledged receipt of this agreement and has authorized the flight school to resume instruction.
6. Ensure that no student receives any flight instruction beyond 25 hours.
7. Ensure that recommendations for student disenrollment include a summary of instruction given to date.
8. Ensure that, upon any unsatisfactory check flight, instruction is terminated. Forward all facts surrounding the case to the appropriate District Director. Instruction will not be resumed without the authorization of the District Director.
9. Notify the District Director, in accordance with the terms of the contract/purchase order, of any accident or incident, regardless of severity, and ensure that the director remains fully informed concerning the case.

ENCLOSURE (6)

FIP FINAL REPORT FORMAT

From: Director, Marine Corps District  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code MRRO-2F)  
  
Subj: Flight Indoctrination Program Final Report for FY  
(RCS MC-1542-02)  
  
Ref: (a) MCO 1542.2D

1. In accordance with the reference the following information is submitted:
  - a. Number of PLC's eligible as of 1 Sep:
  - b. Number of PLC's who applied for FIP:
  - c. Number of PLC's who applied for FIP who have previously soled:
  - d. Number of PLC's approved for the FIP:
  - e. Number of PLC's beginning instruction:
  - f. Number of PLC's completing only the "Basic Flying Stage:"
  - g. Total funds expended only on those PLC's completing the "Basic Flying Stage:"
  - h. Number of PLC's executing the Supplemental Agreement:
  - i. Number of PLC's completing 25 hours of flight instruction:
  - j. Number of PLC's who began FIP and were subsequently commissioned:
  - k. Total funds expended only on those PLC's completing 25 hours of flight instruction:
  - l. Total funds expended on all students:

ENCLOSURE (7)